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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3688	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/791,134	FAIRBANKS ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	KHANH H. LE	3688	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>05/25/2009</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>25-44</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>25-44</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set
forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application
is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR
1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn
pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 05/25/2009 has been entered.

Claims 1-24 were pending and are now cancelled. Claims 25-44 are added. Claims 25,
42, 44 (all method) are independent.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments as to the prior art applied, filed on 05/25/2009 have been
fully considered but are not persuasive. They are addressed in the discussion of *35 USC 103*
presented *below*.

Applicant argue the prior art does not disclose an event server interacting with a human
harvester in the manner and with the detail recited. A new reference is added to show the details
are known before invention time. (It is also not clear the human harvester details are disclosed in
the specification thus the rejection under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112). Claims 36-41 and
42-43 are directed to a harvesting, requested data serving, and bidding system. This is the
previously claimed invention with the addition of the human harvester details thus the previous
references are kept and an additional reference, Jaeger et al, US 66503469, is added. Claim 44 is
a subset of claims 36-41 and 42-43, having only the harvesting part. Claims 25-35 are other
subsets of claims 36-41 and 42-43 having the harvesting and serving requested data parts. As
discussed below, it would have been obvious to separate the parts of the combination of claims

36-41 and 42-43 to arrive at claims 25-35, or claim 44. The Examiner thus finds it helpful to
begin by discussing claims 36-41 and 42-43 since they are the main invention.

(During the interview on 09/04/2008, the Applicants' representative, Mr. Pate, explained
that the invention essentially consists of three parts: the event data harvesting part to create a
database of events and related data (calendaring data); an advertising bidding by advertisers part;
and a part about consumers searching for events to whom search results and advertising are
presented. The claims are herein so interpreted. The last two parts of the invention are taught by
Chu in view of Mathai. The first part (event data harvesting part and database creation) is taught
by BAIDYA. Harvesting by humans is taught by Jaeger. It would have been obvious to one of
ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the database creation technique as
taught by BAIDYA and Jaeger in the system of Chu and Mathai, modified as below discussed,
since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination
each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of
ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were
predictable. Conversely, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of
the separation were predictable since as separate parts, each element merely would have
performed the same function as it did before the combination).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or
composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor,
subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

   4.   Independent method claims 25, 42, 44 are considered directed to statutory subject
matter under 35 U.S.C. 101 because "by a ... module" recited in the main inventive steps
inherently means that the method steps are conducted via at least a computer. Dependent claims
26-41 and 43 are considered directed to statutory subject matter, on the same basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

   5.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

   The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner
   and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to
   enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly
   connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by
   the inventor of carrying out his invention.

   **6.   Claims 25-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to
comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter
which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one
skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had
possession of the claimed invention.**

   Claims 25, 26-27:
   For claim 25, the Examiner has been unable to locate clear support for "extracting, by the
human harvester, from the at least one first publication a first date, first time, and first
description characterizing the at least one first event;
entering, by the human harvester, the first date, first time, and first description into a harvester

interface provided by the harvesting module;

storing, by the harvesting module after the entering, the first date, first time, and first description within the database;

For claims 26-27: clear support cannot be found for selecting a first location from at least a first publication, or typing in by a human harvester.

All that is found from the specification (**PGPub** version 20050197894) regarding the human harvester is the following:

> [0143] Likewise, other fields 248c that effectively identify the calendar record for future users or future use may be included in the identifiers 248. Additional characteristics 249 may guide users and assist in sorting or retrieving calendar record 246. For example, a calendar record 246 may be thought of as a record 246 corresponding to a particular calendar or table 233 created by a user or other _person_ or entity. Characteristics 249 may include geography 249a, time, time period, date, or other identifying time related information 249b.

> [0177] The harvest administration module 326 typically benefits from a security module 386 limiting access thereto to **_people_** and computer system having the proper access for providing harvested materials. A countries module 398 may control and administer by country the harvesting parties, computer systems, and the material. For example, in most countries, a dominant language will require certain parsing and organizational schemes related to that dominant language.

[0200] Similarly, the mining engine 327 may have a parser 327b and a formatter 327c capable of automatically providing many of the functions that the parser 425 and formatter 427 provide for the harvester module 328. Ultimately, the mining engine 327 may pass selected information to a harvester module 328 or **an individual controlling the harvester module 328 in order to provide additional _human_ intervention.**

[0219] For example, some advertisers may prefer that advertisements only be run at a time when a telephone or storefront is staffed. In other embodiments, advertisers may select time slots that are less expensive and accept contacts through an Internet site that cannot automatically log calls and interact therewith. Likewise, certain websites may conduct on-line commerce electronically and be independent of _human_ staffing, thus taking advantage of different ranges of advertising time slots. Similarly, the bid module 372 may provide for automatic or manual refilling of budgets, specification of budgets per date, month, week, year, advertising campaign time period, or the like.

[0275] Harvesters may access the Internet 111, offline sources 126, or the like to obtain information for submission to the database 114 through the control center 133. The mining engine 128 or spidering engine 128 may likewise be programmed to search sites available over the internet 111. **Such searching may be done completely automatically, or with a programmed degree of _human_ intervention.** Cooperation between the spidering engine 128 and harvesters may actually include any desired amount of information from simply the existence of a website of interest to a full download of information for verification or formatting. This cooperation may be direct as illustrated in FIG. 2, or may be indirect, through the system 112 and the control center 133 as illustrated in FIG. 14.

Arguably, some of the above limitations may be obvious in view of the specification excerpted above. However obviousness is not enough to show possession under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112. "What would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art is not the test. Possession of the invention must be shown by the written description and "does not extend to subject matter not disclosed but that would be obvious over what is expressly disclosed". *Lockwood v. American Airlines Inc. 41 USPQ 1961*.

Here, the above limitations are not required or inherent from the above disclosures. For example instead of typing in, the human harvester could scan the data. The scope of the human intervention (in **"an individual controlling the harvester module 328 in order to provide additional human intervention. "** and **"a programmed degree of human intervention")** **is** not clear. Selecting and entering particular data by the human harvester is not clearly disclosed.

Support cannot be found from original claims either.

Claims 26-41, 27-41, 28-41, as dependents of claims 25, 26 and 27 respectively, are respectively rejected on the same basis as claim 25, 26, or 27.

Claims 42 and 44:
As explained above, clear support cannot be found for "extracting, by the human harvester, from the at least one first publication a first date, first time, and first description characterizing the at least one first event;
entering, by the human harvester, the first date, first time, and first description into a harvester interface provided by the harvesting module;
storing, by the harvesting module after the entering, the first date, first time, and first description within the database;"

Claim 43, as dependent of claim 42 is rejected on the same basis as claim 42.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all
obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

>   (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or
>   described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject
>   matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole
>   would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary
>   skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived
>   by the manner in which the invention was made.

8.   **Claims 25-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over
Chu US 7050990 in view of Mathai US 6847969 B1, Baidya US 20030046311 A1, the
definition of "event", and Jaeger et al, US 6650346.**

Claims 42, 36-40:

Chu discloses:

A system and method for collecting, calendaring, and presenting event data from
independent sources, and system and apparatus to support such method, the method comprising:

providing to an advertiser access to a bidding module programmed to present a set of bid criteria
selectable and ordered by an advertiser (Figure 33 and associated text) to place the advertising
content on a computer of a user (Figure 1 items 140, 142 and associated text) **during a time**

window and geographical area substantially arbitrarily specified by the advertiser (Figure 1 item 108, Figure 33 and associated text; col. 52 lines 17-27) to the bidding module;

inputting data corresponding to a plurality of events (Figure 1 item 106 and associated text: listing attributes read on events; Figure 11 and associated text);

creating by a system administrator a database (Figure 1 item 126 and associated text) containing the data to be searched, sorted, and filtered arbitrarily by a user using a corresponding database engine (Figure 1 items 118, 122, 120, 126, 142, 144 and associated text);

providing, via one or more servers (Figure 1 item 118; col. 16 lines 13-25) a user interface comprising navigational software presenting to a user a selection module to arbitrarily select and order, by a user, a set of ordered data from the data according to criteria selected and arbitrarily ordered by a user;

providing a simultaneous presentation to a user of both advertising content (see e.g. Figures 25a-26b with ads on the right of ordered listings) **and the ordered data reflecting the data as selected and ordered by a user, including comparative listings** (see e.g. Figures 25a-26b ordered listings; see e.g. Figures 28a-28b ordered listings with compare button);

receiving from the advertiser, via an advertiser interface (Figure 1 item 116 and associated text), **a bid** for displaying the advertising content corresponding to an advertisement (Figures 2 and 33 and associated text);

comparing the bid to other bids according to comparison criteria selected by the system administrator (Figure 2 and associated text);

and presenting to a user in the geographical area (including an "economically significant boundary independent of political boundaries", see col. 13 lines 26-30) **specified by the advertiser** (e.g. Figure 33 and associated text) and through the user interface (Figure 1 item 142

and associated text), **an advertisement corresponding to the advertising content in conjunction with the ordered data (**see e.g. Figures 25a-26b with ads on the right of ordered listings).

Chu does not specifically disclose calendaring or list of events data returned to a user/requester.

However Mathai US 6847969 B1 discloses a vertical market place **for events buying and selling**. Mathai discloses method and system for providing personalized online services and advertisements **in public spaces including online local events searching and online ticketing** (abstract; col. 14 lines 28-44; col. 14 line to col. 15 line 28: **event searching by category (i.e. event description) and date;** navigation interface to buy tickets); database of events and related data **(i.e. calendaring data) is implied; database of ads and consumer profiles (Fig 3); ad targeting in real time based on the consumer demographics, learned behavior, time and location (e.g. Figure 2 and associated text).**

(Since Mathai teaches the event data is used for information and tickets buying, it is obvious that event or calendaring information would be presented in a normalized or standardized form, as earlier claimed, to provide data presentation consistency so to allow consumers to easily use the data).

It <u>would have been obvious</u> to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made (herein a "PHOSITA") to substitute to any requested data by a Chu user, events or calendaring data as taught by Mathai to allow the consumer user to search and obtain events data as taught by Mathai.

It would further have been obvious to a PHOSITA to substitute or add Mathai's lists of events, or calendaring data as taught by Mathai to the lists of returned data taught by Chu <u>if lists</u>

of events or calendaring data are desired. (In that case the Chu/Mathai system administrator
would be called the calendar provider as earlier claimed).

Chu and Mathai do not disclose the details of an apparatus for data mining and
harvesting events and events-related data to create a searchable database thereof.

However Baidya US 20030046311 A1 discloses dynamic search engine and database,
harvester and **human harvester** to create database of categorized (classified) and
subcategorized data by scanning web pages and extracting different types of data therefrom,
using specific keywords (e.g. paragraphs [0055], [0064]). **Human harvesters (editors) are also
used (e.g. paragraph [0055]).**

Specifically Baidya teaches a database creation technique:

*"An industry database and method of creating same is provided. The database is
created in accordance with a process that includes: identifying a plurality of
web sites meeting at least one search criteria; automatically extracting URL
addresses for each of the plurality of web sites; automatically categorizing
each of the web sites and their corresponding URL addresses in accordance with
a predefined category structure; and automatically indexing and storing each of
the URL addresses in accordance with the predefined category structure in the
database…. (abstract).*

Baidya also teaches that the database data is searchable by users:

*"… A method of using a database system is also provided. The method
includes: storing in a database, information extracted from a plurality of web
sites, wherein the information is automatically categorized and indexed in
accordance with a predefined category structure and includes a plurality of URL
addresses corresponding to the plurality of web sites; receiving a user query;*

executing a search engine in response to the user query that searches a subset
of the stored information extracted from a subset of the plurality of web
sites, and subsequently searching said subset of web sites to find additional
information responsive to said user query." (abstract) . See also [0044].

That is Baidya teaches (excerpt and citations above), as claimed:

An apparatus for collecting and serving data, the apparatus comprising:

a data server, comprising a mining module and a harvesting module (e.g. paragraphs [0055], [0064]);

 the mining module programmed to search online publications (independent from the data server), identify at least one online publication containing some specific type of information and provide to the harvesting module a list of the at least one online publication (e.g. paragraphs [0055], [0064]);

 the harvesting module programmed to store the list and provide a user interface through which **a human harvester inputs into a database data reflective of additional information corresponding to the harvested data (e.g. paragraphs [0055], [0064]);**

the harvesting module further comprising a classification function effective to detect and determine additional information for the plurality of harvested data and to effect a classification thereof for inclusion in the database data as additional information searchable by a user (e.g. paragraphs [0055], [0064], abstract);

a database with database engine and data store (abstract).

Thus it would have been obvious to a PHOSITA to substitute into the harvested data and their related additional data taught by BAIDYA, events and events related data, such as calendar data that represent the event date and other event information, and to add such modified BAIDYA system into the Chu and Mathai system to allow creation of an events and calendaring data searchable database to be used by a user of the Chu and Mathai system.

It would have been further obvious to a PHOSITA that in such a combined system the sources from which event data are harvested from are event sponsors as claimed. It would also have been obvious to a PHOSITA to include the database creation technique as taught by BAIDYA in the Chu and Mathai system since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements (the elements being a harvesting, data mining, data base creation apparatus; an advertiser bidding apparatus; and a presentation of event search results and advertising apparatus), and in the combination each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

Thus Chu, Mathai and BAIDYA, combined as above discussed, teach, as now claimed:

A method comprising: selecting a computer network;
hosting, by a serving entity, on the computer network an event server comprising a user interface module, mining module, harvesting module, bidding module, and database;

identifying, by the mining module, at least one first publication published on the computer network and containing calendar information describing at least one first event sponsored by a first sponsor independent from the serving entity;
formulating, by the mining module after the identifying, a list listing the at least one first publication;
passing, by the mining module, the list to the harvesting module;
receiving, by the bidding module, from an advertiser independent of the serving entity and first

sponsor, a set of bid criteria controlling display of advertising content on the computer of a
human user independent from the serving entity and the first sponsor and comprising criteria
corresponding to a time window and geographical area substantially arbitrarily specified by the
advertiser to the bidding module;
inputting into the user interface module, by the human user, a query;

receiving from the advertiser a bid for displaying the advertising content;
comparing the bid to other bids according to comparison criteria selected by the serving
entity;
processing, by the event server, the query; and
presenting simultaneously via the user interface module, by the event server, in response
to the query, the first data relating to the event, and advertising content.

        However, even though a human harvester is taught in Baidya, the references above do not
specifically teach the details of :

        presenting or displaying, by the harvesting module, the list to a human harvester;
        extracting, by the human harvester, from the at least one first publication a first date, first
        time, and first description characterizing the at least one first event;
        entering, by the human harvester, the first date, first time, and first description into a
        harvester interface provided by the harvesting module;
        storing, by the harvesting module after the entering, the first date, first time, and first
        description within the database;

        However Jaeger et al, US 6650346 teaches presentation of a list of entries to a data
entry person (human harvester), each list entry containing many data, selection of an entry by the
human data entry person whereupon some data of the selected entry is shown to the person
(abstract). Selection of an entry from the list is interpreted as extracting some data by the person.

The Jaeger person fills (i.e. types) in additional data corresponding to the data of the selected
entry and the new data for the entry is stored along with the entry other corresponding data in the
database (abstract).

      While the data in Jaeger is different, it would have been obvious to a PHOSITA to add
the Jaeger's teachings of data extraction from a list of entries and entering (typing in) the same or
additional information by a person and having them stored, to Chu, Mathai and BAIDYA, to
allow data entry by a data entry person. It would have been obvious to a PHOSITA then to
replace Jaeger's data categories with event date, time, location description data since these are
relevant to the system of Chu, Mathai and BAIDYA.

      As to the data entered by the automatic or human harvester, and presented to a searcher,
being time, date, location, description of the event, Mathai, at citations above, and col. 16 lines
49-50, discloses searchable campus events.

      Since an event is "something that occurs in a certain place during a particular interval of
time, see http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/event", 3rd entry (copy provided), associating
time, date and **location** of the particular event to the event would have been obvious to allow
searching by those parameters (claims 42, 26-29).

      Mathai teaches many searchable events presented to a searcher, thus discloses 1st and 2nd
events (claims 30-31). Note that the legal statuses of the sponsors of the events do not impact the
method step of claims 42 or 30, thus are non-functional descriptive material and are given little
patentable weight if any. Since Mathai teaches many events it would have been obvious to enter
time, date, location, description of each of the event to make them searchable for each such event
(claims 32-34). Displaying the same data for each (i.e. 1st and 2nd) event to the searcher would
have been obvious to give the searcher the needed information (claims 42 and 35).

Claims 41, 43:

Chu, Mathai , BAIDYA and Jaeger teach the method of claim 40 or 42 as discussed above , and Chu discloses :

displaying the advertising content during the time window and in the geographical area specified by the advertiser (see citation of Chu above; <u>Chu</u> discloses many attributes of the listings advertisers can specify arbitrarily (see (Figure 33 and associated text) . Chu suggests timing as an attribute relevant for advertisers to specify since at col. 40 lines 60-62 and col. 49 lines 1-35, Chu discloses different charges to advertisers per different times frames).

Chu further discloses :

a geographical designation less than a state (col. 13 lines 24-32) or less than a entire city (col.13 lines 26-31).

Claims 25-35, and 44:

Chu, Mathai, BAIDYA and Jaeger combined as above discussed disclose all the limitations of claims 25-35 and 44 thus disclose these claims.

Alternate rejection of claims 25-35, and 44:

9.   **Claims 25-35 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chu US 7050990 in view of Mathai US 6847969 B1, Baidya US 20030046311 A1, the definition of "event", and Jaeger et al, US 6650346.**

Claims 25-35, and 44:

Claims 25-35, and 44 have substantially the same elements as claims 36-41 and 42-43 addressed above except for the bidding module and its attendant limitations. However

elimination of an element or its functions have been held obvious. See *In re Karlson*, 136 USPQ 184, 186; 311 F2d 581 (CCPA 1963). Also to make separable have been held obvious. *Nerwin v. Erlichman*, 168 USPQ 177, 179 (BdPatApp&Int 1969); *In re Dulberg*, 129 USPQ 348, 349; 289 F.2d 522 (CCPA 1961).

Claims 25-35 are subsets of claims 36-41 and 42-43, having the harvesting and serving requested data parts but not the bidding part.

Thus, as held above, it would have been obvious to a PHOSITA to delete the bidding module and its functions from the combination of if not needed or desired, to arrive at claims 25-35.

Claim 44 is a subset of claims 36-41 and 42-43, having only the harvesting part. Thus, as held above, it would have been obvious to a PHOSITA to delete the bidding module and serving requested data part, and their functions from the combination of if not needed or desired, to arrive at claim 44.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the separation were predictable since as separate parts, each element merely would have performed the same function as it did before the combination.

Conclusion

10.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHANH H. LE whose telephone number is 571-272-6721. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Robert Weinhardt can be reached on 571-272-6633. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are **571-273-8300** for regular communications and for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-3600. For patent related correspondence, hand carry deliveries must be made to the Customer Service Window (now located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

August 16, 2009
/Khanh H. Le/
Examiner, Art Unit 3688